

BENEATH THE FACE: PORTRAITS OF THE POOR

photographs by NANCY MILLER ELLIOTT

on view: AUGUST 9 - 31, 1985

gallery hours: WEDNSDAY - SUNDAY, NOON - 6PM

opening reception: 6 - 8PM, AUGUST 8, 1985



Nancy Miller Elliott writes:

"I started as a painter, and I have always been fascinated by the human face. My work as a photographer continues this exploration. I am always looking for the beauty, both outward and inward. In each portrait I wish to convey the whole human being - what he or she is feeling. I want the viewer to look deep beneath the surface. I want to stir the emotions. These portraits are dedicated to the strength of the human spirit."

We came across some of these photographs when we were searching for supporting materials for a STOREFRONT project "HOMELESS AT HOME" dedicated to the existence, conditions and growing number of homeless people. "BENEATH THE FACE: PORTRAITS OF THE POOR" is the first of a series of activities related to this project. The project will continue through March of 1986, with an exhibition of more than 200 proposals by architects and artists confronting the issues of "home" and homelessness, ranging from solutions for existing sites to visionary projects. A lecture series is being organized in conjunction with the various activities and a publication has been planned.

Nancy Miller Elliott began her photographic work in 1958, taking portraits of jazz legends including: Billie Holiday, Lester Young, Benny Goodman, Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, Count Basie, Buck Clayton, Joe Williams, Artie Shaw, Eubie Blake, Jo Jones, Roy Eldridge, Benny Carter, Mel Lewis, Thelonius Monk, and many others. Her photographs have been published in Time-Life Giants of Jazz series, New York Magazine, The New York Times, New York Daily News, New York Post, Downbeat, Jazz Journal, numerous jazz periodicals throughout Europe and Japan, and two books - Loius' Children: American Jazz Singers and Joe Williams: Blues Singer - by Leslie Grouse published by Quill.

She started her "PORTRAITS OF THE POOR" series in 1980 with a 35mm camera given to her by Buck Clayton. Since then she has been on the streets of New York with her subjects, whom she knows personally and with whom she has spent long hours. In these portraits she has captured a stunning revelation of humanity. She is an artist of exceptional compassion and insight. We cannot pass by her portraits casually.

This exhibition has been organized and curated by BA-BA ARC, Moji Baratloo and Clif Balch. For further information call (212) 873-6450.

STOREFRONT
Art and Architecture

Kyong Park/Glenn Weiss 51 Prince, New York, NY 10012 212-431-5795

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August, 1985



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PHOTOGRAPHS BY NANCY MILLER ELLIOTT

photogravure print: Bob Solymoda

wall painting: Tom Elliott

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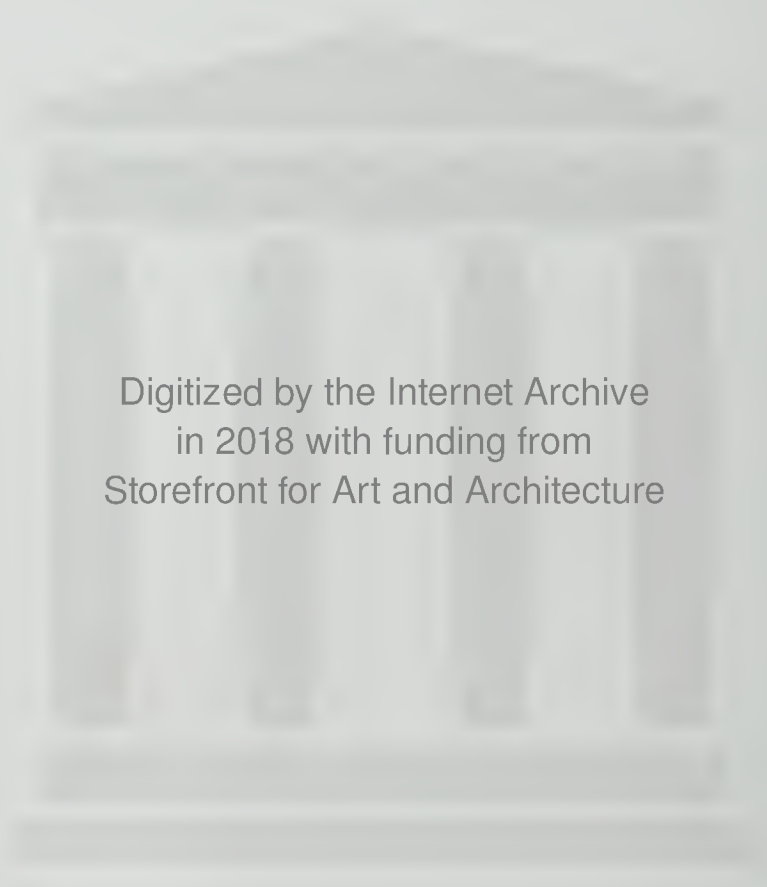
Nancy Miller Elliott

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Shaw, Eubie Blake, Jo Jones, Roy Eldridge,
Count Basie, Buck Clayton, Joe Williams, Artie
Benny Goodman, Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn,
including: Billie Holiday, Lester Young,
work in 1958, taking portraits of jazz legends
Nancy Miller Elliott began her photographic



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